

# Alternate Contribution Rate Reporting

Employer User Guide

Release Date: June 2012

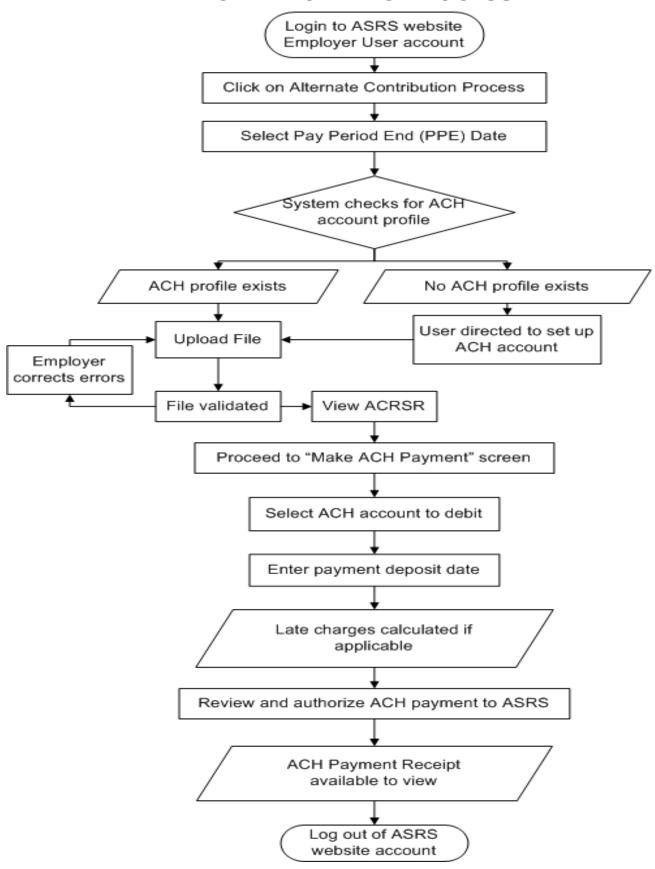
#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Section One: The ACR Reporting Process	3
The ACR Reporting Process (illustrated)	4
Section Two: Getting Started with ASRS Alternate Contribution Reporting	5
Section Three: The ACR Reporting Process (step-by-step instructions)	7
Section Four: To Review Your ACR Contribution Reports	16
Addendum #1: ACR File Formats	19
Addendum #2: ACH Account Profiles	23

### Section One:

# **The ACR Reporting Process**

#### THE ACR REPORTING PROCESS



#### Section Two:

# Getting Started With ASRS Alternate Contribution Reporting

# GETTING STARTED WITH ALTERNATE CONTRIBUTION REPORTING (ACR)

#### LOGIN

A registered User will be permitted to login to their account by providing their Login ID and password. When the Alternate Contribution Reporting function is released to the ASRS website, the ASRS will automatically assign roles for employers to access this new function initially (see below).

The existing Contribution Reporting Application Manager will gain the permission to assign or remove access to the Maintain Alternate Contribution Reporting role. There will not be a separate application and application manager for Alternate Contribution reporting.

#### SETTING UP WEB USERS

The Contribution Reporting Application Manager can set up employer web users and assign or remove the Maintain Alternate Contribution Reporting role within Maintain Employer Users.

Initially, the Maintain Alternate Contribution Reporting role will be automatically assigned to existing users with the following Contribution Reporting roles:

- Maintain Payroll (for File Upload employers)
- Maintain Payroll Payment (for Web Based Reporting employers)

The Contribution Reporting Application Manager may make changes to user access for Maintain Alternate Contribution Reporting as soon as the new process is released.

# Section Three:

# **The ACR Reporting Process**

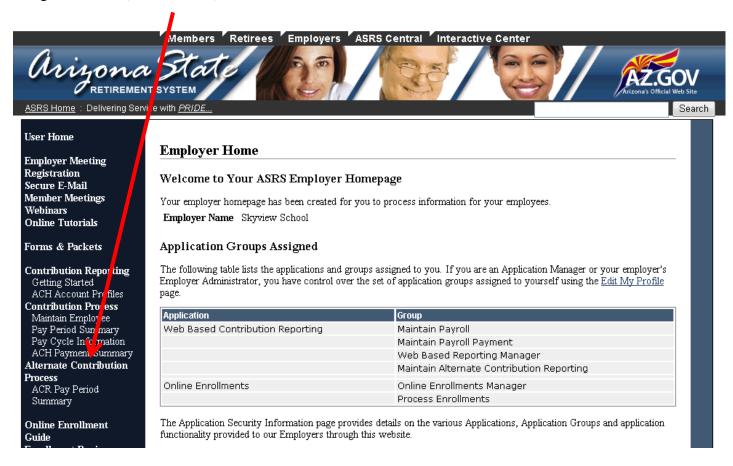
#### **Step 1** – Login to the ASRS Secure Employer Website

On the **Employer Login and Registration** page, type in the **Login ID** and password.

Click Login to Secure Home

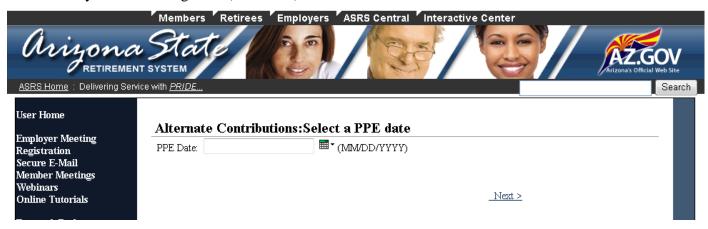
#### **Step 2** – Alternate Contribution Processing

After you've arrived at the **Employer Home** page, select "Alternate Contribution Process" from the left-hand navigation menu (shown below):



#### **Step 3** – Enter Pay Period Ending Date

Enter the Pay Period Ending Date (PPE Date) in the box shown:



After entering the PPE Date, click the "Next" link to proceed to the next step.

#### **Step 4** – *Upload Data File*

On the **File Upload** page you will see your PPE Date and Reporting Unit Number pre-populated in the table shown.

In the Upload File box, click the

Browse

button to locate your data file.

Click "Next" to proceed to the next step.

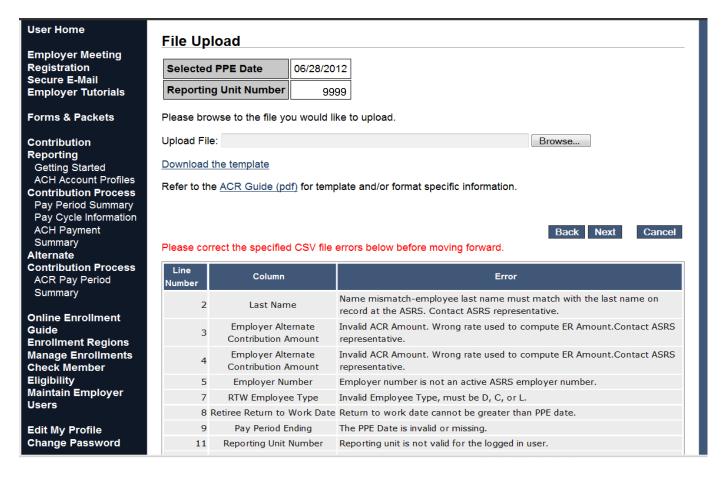


#### **NOTES**:

- 1. Data files should be in <u>CSV Format</u>. To see an example of a CSV formatted table, click on the "Download the Template" link (as shown above).
- 2. For a complete detailed description of required data fields, please see the "Alternate Contribution Rate File Format" in **Addendum #1** of this guide.

#### TROUBLESHOOTING DATA FILE ERRORS

If there are errors in your data file upload, you will receive a detailed explanation of what data fields are in error and an explanation of the error. An example error report is shown below:



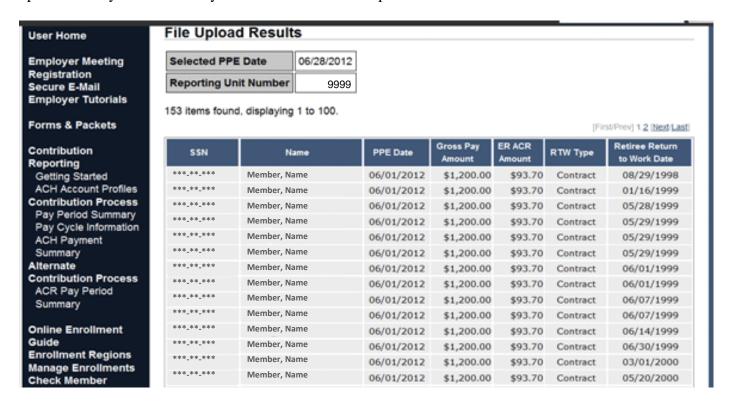
You will need to correct these errors in your original CSV formatted table and re-upload your corrected file.

After correcting your data file, click the **Browse** button to locate your revised data file.

Click the **Next** button to import it to the ASRS reporting system and proceed to the next step.

#### **Step 5** – Review File Upload Results

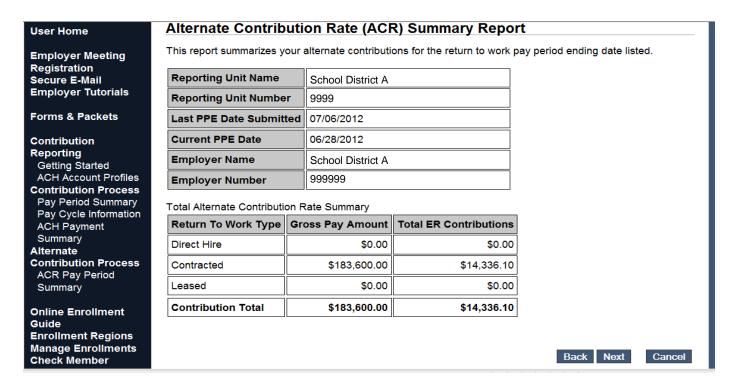
On the **File Upload Results** page, you will receive confirmation of how many records were successfully uploaded and you can review your data in a table. Example shown below:



After reviewing your records, click the "Next" link at the bottom of the page (you may need to scroll down below your data table) to proceed to the next step.

#### **Step 6** – Review Summary Report

The **Alternate Contribution Rate Summary Report (ACRSR)** summarizes your alternate contributions for the return to work pay period ending date listed. The table breaks out the contributions by "Return to Work (RTW) Type" – Direct Hire, Contracted or Leased. The Comments box allows you to send messages to ASRS staff members.



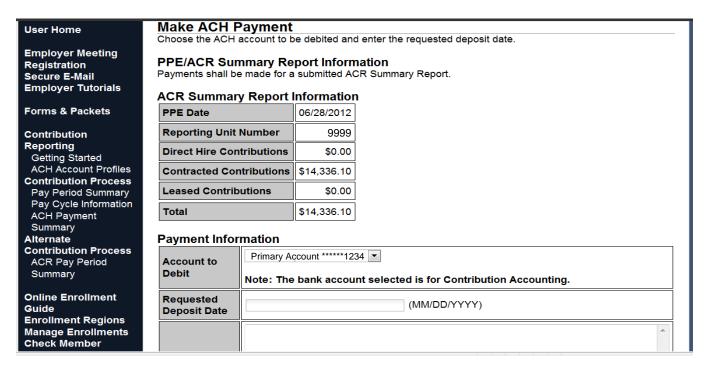
After reviewing your summary report, click the "Next" link to proceed to the next step.

#### **Step 7** – Make ACH Payment

Under **ACRSR Information** you will see the contribution amount due based on the ACR data you uploaded.

Under **Payment Information**, please provide the following information to make your ACH payment:

- 1. **Account to Debit** using the drop-down menu shown, indicate the appropriate bank account from which to debit the payment.
- 2. **Requested Deposit Date** enter the preferred date for your debit transaction to occur. Dates in the past cannot be entered. <u>NOTE</u>: ACH payments must occur within 14 days of the PPE date in order to avoid incurring a late charge.



After entering your payment information, click the "Next" link to proceed to the next step.

<u>NOTE</u>: if you need to update bank account information, please see "ACH Account Profile" in **Addendum #2** of this guide.

#### **Step 8** – Authorize ACH Payment

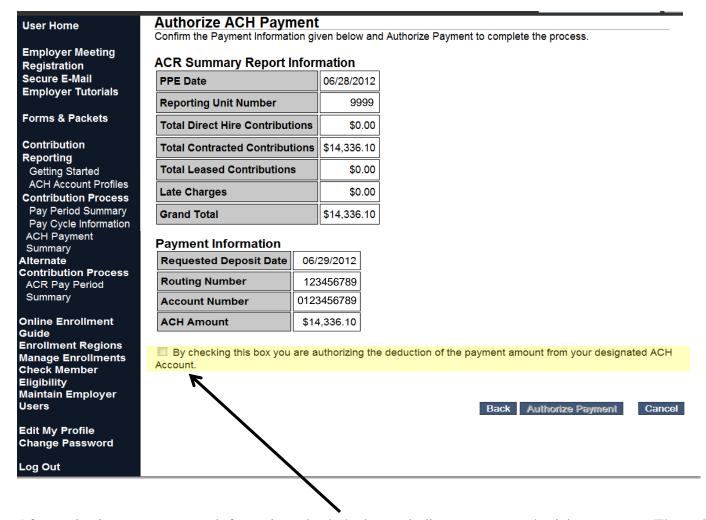
On the **Authorize ACH Payment** page, you will have the opportunity to review your payment information.

Under **ACRSR Information**, you will see a detailed breakdown of your payment:

- 1. PPE Date
- 2. Reporting Unit Number
- 3. Total Direct Hire Contributions
- 4. Total Contracted Contributions
- 5. Total Lease Contributions
- 6. Late Charges (if applicable)
- 7. Grand Total

Under **Payment Information**, you can review:

- Requested Deposit Date
- Bank Account Routing Number
- Bank Account Number
- ACH Amount to be debited



After reviewing your payment information, <u>check the box</u> to indicate you are authorizing payment. Then, click the "Authorize Payment" link to proceed to the next step.

#### **Step 9** -ACH Payment Receipt

The **ACH Payment Receipt** page is acknowledgement of your payment submission. You may wish to print a copy for your records (although a record of your payments is always available from the Contributions Reporting page).

<u>NOTE</u>: If your payment was scheduled for a future date, the **Confirmation Number** table field will read "Unavailable until processed". This number will be populated after your payment has debited and will be available for your records on the Contributions Reporting page.

ser Home	ACH Payment Receipt			
mployer Meeting egistration ecure E-Mail	, ,	S online contribution payment system. Your a copy of this page and keep it for your red		
mployer Tutorials	<b>Confirmation Number</b>	1122529		
orms & Packets	PPE Date	06/28/2012		
4	Requested Deposit Date	06/29/2012		
ontribution eporting	Reporting Unit	9999		
Getting Started ACH Account Profiles	Account Description	Primary Acct		
ontribution Process	Routing Number	123456789		
Pay Period Summary Pay Cycle Information	Account Number	0123456789		
ACH Payment Summary	ACR Amount	14336.10		
Iternate ontribution Process	Late Charges	0.00		
onunbulion Process	Grand Total	14336.10		

Your ACR reporting and payment to the ASRS has been successfully completed!

#### Section Four:

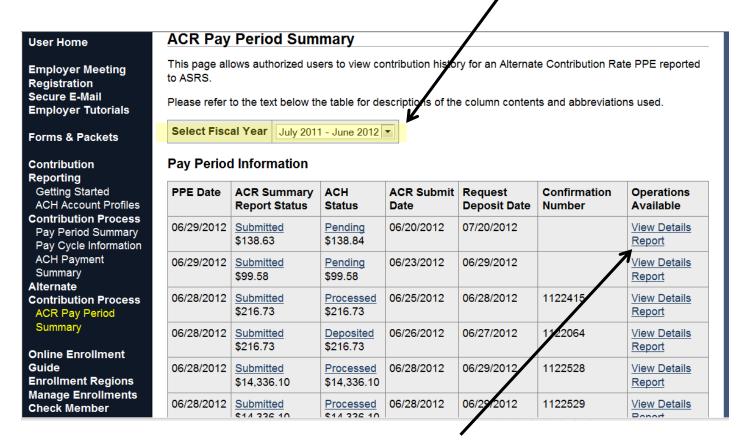
# To Review Your ACR Contribution Reports

#### TO REVIEW YOUR ACR CONTRIBUTION REPORTS

To review past or current contributions, you can review the ACR Pay Period Summary at any time.

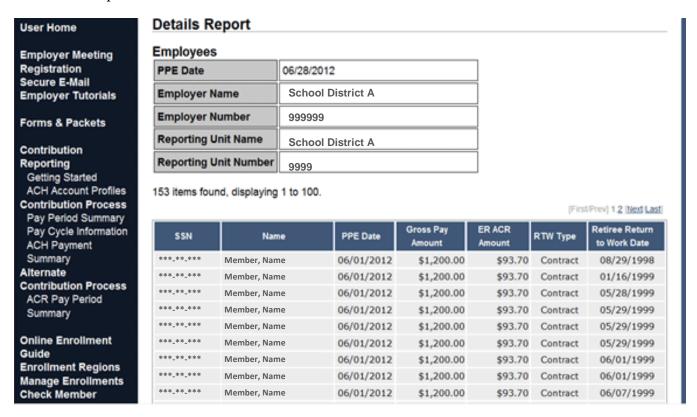
From anywhere in the secure Employer section of the ASRS website, using the left-hand navigation menu, click on the "ACR Pay Period Summary" link to load the summary page.

On the **ACR Pay Period Summary** page, use the drop-down menu after <u>Fiscal Year</u> to choose the year you wish to review. This will populate a table with a summary of contributions made during the fiscal year selected.



For details on any contribution period, click on the "View Details Report" link.

By clicking the "View Details Report" link, you will load the **Details Report** for the selected pay period ending date. An example is shown below:



When you have finished reviewing the Details Report, click the "Return to ACR Pay Period Summary" link to return to the summary page.

# Addendum #1:

### **ACR File Format**

#### **Alternate Contribution Rate File Format**

Data elements should be entered in the order shown below:

Field Name	Required	Length	<b>Business Requirements</b>
SSN	Y	Numeric (9)	<ol> <li>Not null / not blank / no spaces</li> <li>SSN cannot start with "000"</li> <li>SSN must match an ASRS Member participant with a current status of "retired".</li> <li>Must exist in ASRS database</li> </ol>
Employer Number	Y	Numeric (6)	<ol> <li>Not null / not blank / no spaces</li> <li>Six digits, supplied to the employer by the ASRS</li> <li>Cannot be all "9's</li> <li>Cannot be all "0's"</li> <li>Must exist in ASRS database</li> <li>Must be in an active status</li> <li>PPE Date cannot be less than the Employer Effective date</li> </ol>
First Name	Y	Alphanumeric (20)	1. Not null / not blank / not all spaces 2. Spaces, hyphen, and apostrophes allowed
Last Name	Y	Alphanumeric (30)	1. Not null / not blank / not all spaces 2. Last name must match what exists in the ASRS database
Gross Pay Amount	Y/N	Numeric (10)	1. Lead sign may be negative 2. Use dollars and cents format 3. Not null / not blank / no spaces 4. Amount must be between .01 and 9999999.99 5. May be blank/zeros only if termination date field exists
Employer Alternate Contribution Amount	Y/N	Numeric (9)	<ol> <li>Lead sign may be negative</li> <li>Use dollars and cents format</li> <li>Not null / not blank / no spaces</li> <li>Amount must be between .01 and 999999.99</li> <li>May be blank/zeros only if termination date exists</li> </ol>

Reporting Unit Number	Y	Numeric (4)	1 . Four digits, beginning with a zero; supplied to the employer by the ASRS 2. Not null / not blank / no spaces 3. Cannot = '9999' or <= '0000' 4. Must be an active ASRS RU 5. Must be associated with ER number provided on transaction
RTW Employee Type	Y	Alpha Character (1)	1. Not null / not blank / no space 2. Must be one of 3 ACR types below D: Direct C: Contractor L: Leased
Pay Period Ending	Y	MM/DD/YYYY	<ol> <li>Must be in MM/DD/YYYY format</li> <li>Cannot be prior to 07/01/2012.</li> <li>No punctuation allowed.</li> <li>PPE Date cannot less than the Employer Effective date</li> </ol>
Retiree Return to Work Date	Y/N	MM/DD/YYYY	Required only on receipt of 1 <sup>st</sup> contribution record we receive from an employer.  Optional on subsequent records from the same employer.  1. Must be in MM/DD/YYYY format.  2. Cannot be less than Retirement effective date.  3. No punctuation allowed.  4. Cannot be greater than PPE Date

Retiree Termination	N	MM/DD/YYYY	NOTE: Should be provided upon final ACR
Date			contribution record, or submitted with zero
			dollars for Gross Pay & ACR after the final
			ACR is reported.
			1. Must be in MM/DD/YYYY format.
			2. Cannot be less than Retirement effective
			date.
			3. No punctuation allowed.
			4. Retiree Termination Date cannot be less
			than Retiree Return to work Date

The ASRS Alternate Contribution rate process will only allow files of .CSV type and all other file types will be rejected. Example of files that will be **rejected**: .doc, .docx, .rtf, .pdf, .dat, .xls, .xlsm, etc.

#### What is a CSV file format?

**CSV** stands for Comma Separated Values, sometimes also called Comma Delimited. A CSV file is a specially formatted plain text file which stores spreadsheet or basic database style information in a very simple format, with one record on each line, and each field within that record separated by a comma.

How data will look if viewed with Notepad:

123456789,123456,Jane,Doe,200.12,17.29,1234,D,08/01/2012,08/01/2012,08/01/2012

#### **Creating a CSV file using Microsoft Excel**

- 1. Open your spreadsheet template and go to the **File** pull-down menu and choose **Save As...**.
- 2. Change the "Save as type" or "Format" field to read: "CSV (Comma delimited)".
- 3. Enter a name for the document and click **Save**.
- 4. To check the validity of your CSV file, open the new file from a plain-text reading program such as Notepad or Text Edit. Check to make sure there are no extra commas, other than between fields. Depending on what program you're going to use the CSV file with, you may need to also remove any extra quotation marks or other formatting which Excel may have inserted.

#### **CSV Header Format**

Required header labels which need to be included in the \*.CSV file upload:

- SSN
- Employer Number
- First Name
- Last Name
- Gross Pay Amount
- Employer Alternate Contribution Amount

- Reporting Unit Number
- RTW Employee Type
- Pay Period Ending
- Retiree Return to Work Date
- Retiree Termination Date

# Addendum #2: ACH Account Profiles

#### TO UPDATE YOUR ACH ACCOUNT PROFILES

This feature allows employers to maintain their bank account information.

NOTE: User permission to use the ACR application does not automatically authorize a user to access the ACH Account Profile page. This is a separate permission which must be assigned to a user by the employer Contribution Reporting Manager.

#### UPDATING YOUR ACH ACCOUNT PROFILES

To access the **ACH Account Profiles** page, click on the link of the same name on the left-hand navigation menu.

From this page, you can review your current bank account information.

- To deactivate an account, click the "Deactivate" link.
- To make an account the default account, click the "Make Default" link.



To add an additional account, click the

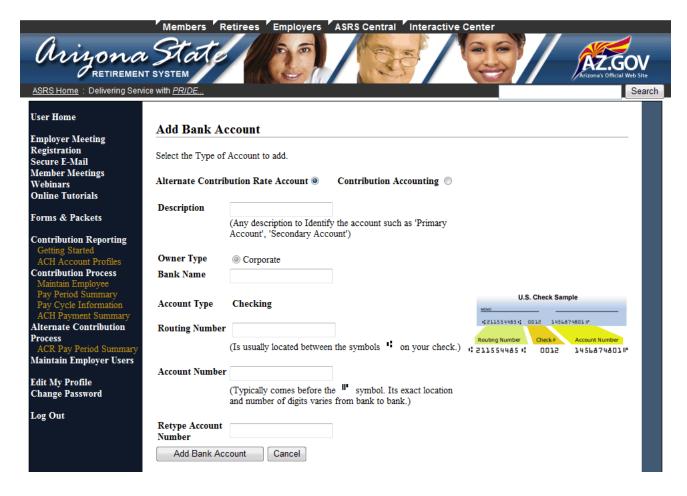
**Add Bank Account** 

button.

#### ADDING A BANK ACCOUNT TO YOUR ACH ACCOUNT PROFILE

From the Add Bank Account page, complete the following information:

- 1. Select which type of account:
  - a. Alternate Contribution Rate Account
  - b. Contribution Accounting
- 2. Description (any descriptions that will help your administrator identify this account)
- 3. Select Owner Type
- 4. Add the Bank Name
- 5. Add the Account Routing Number
- 6. Add the Account Number
- 7. Retype the Account Number (for confirmation purposes)



When finished, click the

Add Bank Account

button.

This will return you to the **ACH Account Profiles** page. You should now see your new account added to the table of accounts.